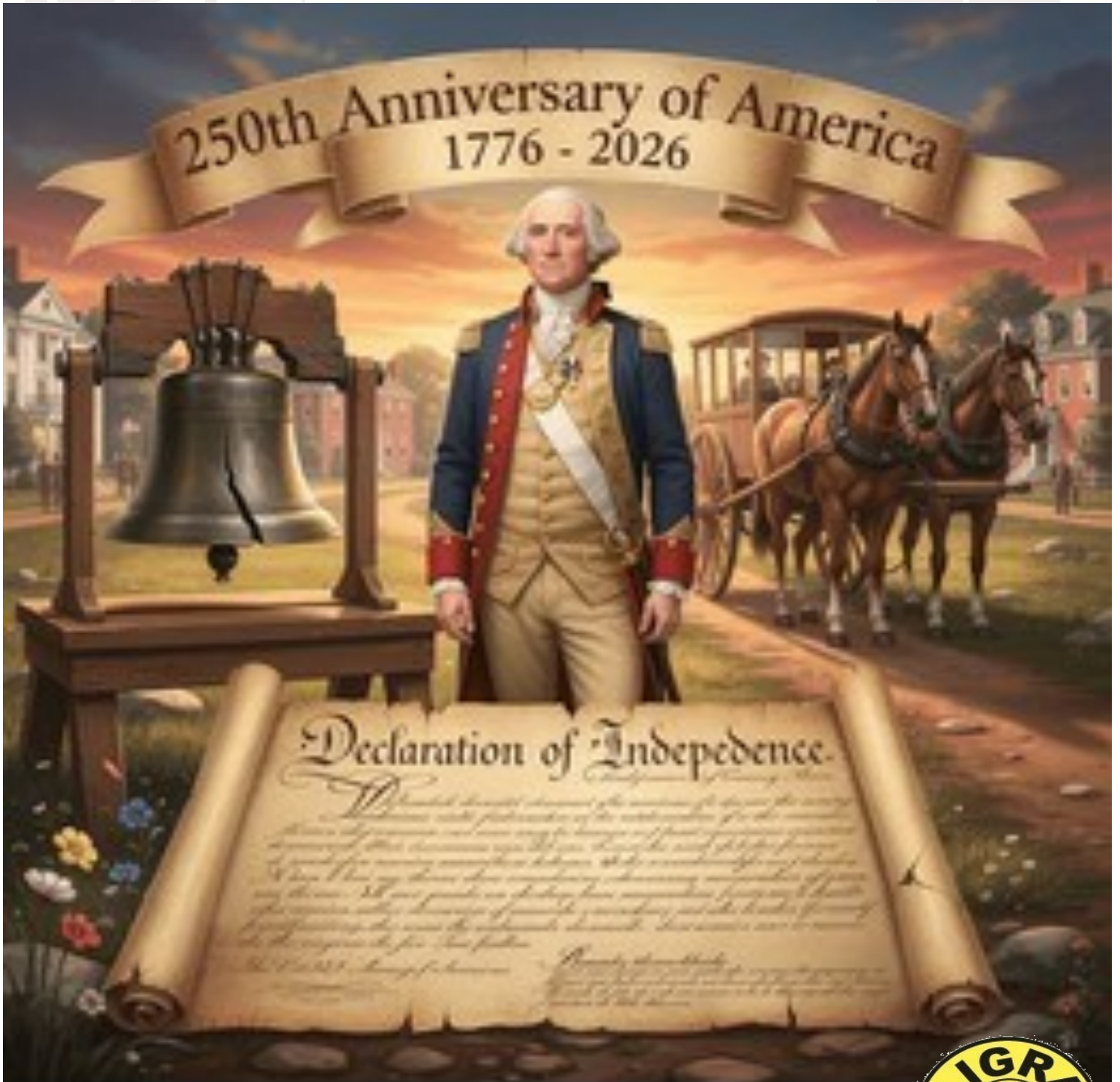


# America's 250th Anniversary

# LIGRA

LONG ISLAND GASOLINE RETAILERS ASSOCIATION, INC. & ALLIED TRADES



**JULY/AUGUST 2026**

Address: 270 Spagnoli Road Suite 203, Melville, NY 11747 | Website: LIGRA.COM



# ASSOCIATION UPDATES

**In response to rising postage rates, we are pleased to offer you the option of paying your LIGRA dues annually online, with no fees for ACH payments.**

**Please contact our office to arrange access to this convenient payment method.**

**PMI | U.S. U.S. Businesses**  
of Philip Morris International

**PMI USA tobacco nicotine pouches, are now sponsoring our bi-monthly LIGRA Newsletter**

ZYN nicotine pouches provide 28 million<sup>1</sup> American adults who smoke cigarettes a better option than continued smoking. Government policies on tobacco and nicotine should be based on science and common sense policies to ensure adult smokers have access to FDA-authorized smoke-free products.



## What Is ZYN?

- ◆ ZYN is a small pouch made with plant-based fibers that contains naturally-derived, pharmaceutical-grade nicotine, food-grade fillers, and flavorings for a smoke-free and spit-free experience.
- ◆ It is designed to be placed between the upper lip and gum, allowing the nicotine to be absorbed orally.
- ◆ ZYN is available with 2 nicotine levels (3mg and 6mg) in 10 varieties mirroring longstanding smokeless tobacco product flavors.
  - ▶ Flavored – Menthol, Cool Mint, Peppermint, Wintergreen, Spearmint, Cinnamon, Coffee, and Citrus.
  - ▶ Unflavored – Smooth and Chill.

## ZYN & Harm Reduction

- ◆ ZYN pouches have almost undetectable levels<sup>2</sup> of cancer-causing toxins compared to other smokeless tobacco products.<sup>3</sup>
- ◆ The overwhelming majority of ZYN users change their smoking behavior after starting ZYN.
  - ▶ Over 50 percent stopped smoking cigarettes.
  - ▶ Nearly one-third reduced the number of cigarettes smoked each day by more than half.<sup>4</sup>



## The “Swedish Experience” & Real-World Evidence

The Swedish experience continues to provide real-world evidence and epidemiological data demonstrating the power of smoke-free tobacco products to reduce the harm caused by cigarettes.

- ◆ Tobacco-related illness and mortality for men is lower in Sweden<sup>5</sup> than in any other European country.
- ◆ Smoking rates in Sweden have fallen to the lowest levels in Europe<sup>6</sup>, all while smoke-free product use has increased.

The Swedish experience is real-world evidence of how access to affordable, acceptable smoke-free products provides a better choice for adult smokers.

## Adult Smokers Deserve Access To Better Choices: Smoke-Free Products

- ◆ ZYN is not risk-free. It contains nicotine, which is addictive.
- ◆ For adults smokers, quitting all tobacco products is always the best choice.
- ◆ On average, nine out of 10<sup>7</sup> adult smokers continue smoking each year.
- ◆ ZYN is a better choice than continued smoking for these adult smokers.

Information provided by PMI Global Services, Inc. – January 2024. This information is intended for policy and regulatory discussions. It is not for advertising or promotional purposes and not intended for a consumer audience.

<sup>1</sup> CDC, Cigarette Smoking in the U.S. (May 4, 2023), <http://tinyurl.com/mwst423>

<sup>2</sup> Institute for Tobacco Studies, Mortality attributable to tobacco among men in Sweden and other European countries: an analysis of data in a WHO report (September 1, 2014), <http://tinyurl.com/3te97d6m>

<sup>3</sup> BMC Chemistry, Harmful And Potentially Harmful Constituents (HPHCs) In Two Novel Nicotine Pouch Products In Comparison With Regular Smokeless Tobacco Products And Pharmaceutical Nicotine Replacement Therapy Products (NRTs) (March 3, 2023), <http://tinyurl.com/y54855p>

<sup>4</sup> SM Internal Study, SMNA20-03: ZYN User Profile Study (2021), (pending publication)

<sup>5</sup> Institute for Tobacco Studies, Mortality Attributable To Tobacco Among Men In Sweden And Other European Countries: An Analysis of Data In A WHO Report (September 1, 2014), <http://tinyurl.com/3te97d6m>

<sup>6</sup> OECD, State of Health In The EU - Sweden (December 13, 2021), <http://tinyurl.com/54urw46>

<sup>7</sup> CDC, Cigarette Smoking in the U.S. (May 4, 2023), <http://tinyurl.com/mwst423>

## OFFICERS & DIRECTORS

### PRESIDENT

Steve Wunderlich  
[Steve@LIGRA.COM](mailto:Steve@LIGRA.COM)

### IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT

Kevin Beyer  
[KEVIN@LIGRA.COM](mailto:KEVIN@LIGRA.COM)  
SERGEANT AT ARMS

Zvi Landau

[ZVI@LIGRA.COM](mailto:ZVI@LIGRA.COM)

### DIRECTOR

Rich Collaro

[Rich@LIGRA.COM](mailto:Rich@LIGRA.COM)

### DIRECTOR

Jonathan Tow

[Jonathan@LIGRA.COM](mailto:Jonathan@LIGRA.COM)

### EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

### DIRECTOR

Chris Daniello

[CHRIS@LIGRA.COM](mailto:CHRIS@LIGRA.COM)

## Benefits Administrator

Christine Wilson

[Insurance@LIGRA.com](mailto:Insurance@LIGRA.com)

## FIELD REPRESENTATIVES

Bill Walker

[BILL@LIGRA.COM](mailto:BILL@LIGRA.COM)

## LIGRA GENERAL COUNSEL

Forchelli Deegan Terrana,  
LLP

Andrea Tsoukalas Curto

[ATCurto@forchellilaw.com](mailto:ATCurto@forchellilaw.com)

## LIGRA LOBBYIST

William A. Schnell Inc.

[LOBBYIST@LIGRA.COM](mailto:LOBBYIST@LIGRA.COM)

Bruce W. Geiger &

Associates

[BRUCE@LIGRA.COM](mailto:BRUCE@LIGRA.COM)

As we enjoy the July 4th holiday let us all take the time to remember that it is more than just the picnics and barbeques.

We as a nation are celebrating the signing of The Declaration of Independence. The Declaration of Independence was a declaration to the British that the American colonies were to be independent of their rule.

The Declaration of Independence was the catalyst for the changes in government and the establishment of the freedoms we have today. America was to become the envy of all other nations because of our mission for the pursuit of happiness.

The Declaration of Independence was much more than an opportunity for rebellious and political men to make a statement or to boost their own egos. It was a document that carried with its severe consequences as well as priceless gifts for future generations.

In signing their names to the Declaration of Independence, the signers were effectively signing away their protection and anonymity from British forces. John Hancock, president of the Continental Congress, probably had the most cause for fear as he was the leader of the revolution against the British.

True, he was described as a flamboyant character who liked attention. But his large signature on the Declaration of Independence was not to boast his own ego. It was a powerful response to a decree that had been delivered from England in early 1776 offering a large reward for his capture and the capture of several leading figures.

On signing the Declaration in his famously clear and obvious way he commented, "The British ministry can read that name without spectacles; let them double their reward." In the time following the signing of the Declaration of Independence we see that the British threats were serious, as five signers were captured by the British as traitors and tortured before they died.

Twelve had their homes ransacked and burned, losing all their earthly possessions. Two lost their sons serving in the Revolutionary Army; another had two sons captured. Nine of the fifty-six fought and died from wounds or hardships of the Revolutionary War.

Yet with all the risks, these 56 men knew that in order to create the nation of freedom that they dreamed of, they would need to take a stand. These men were influential, wealthy, popular, educated, and talented. They represented leading authorities in many professions.

These men had everything to lose and risked it all to declare that citizens of America would no longer be forced to be subject to the whims of unfair British rule. Because they did, we live in a nation with liberty and justice; a nation that is united and seeks to foster general welfare and justice for all of us who have the privilege of being Americans.

Thanks to these 56 signers of the Declaration of Independence who pledged their life and liberties to this new country.

They stood up for what was the right thing to do.

Now these 250 years later, we need to hold our elected officials responsible and remind them they work for us.

**Are we?**

"Freedom is never more than one generation away from extinction. We didn't pass it to our children in the bloodstream. It must be fought for, protected, and handed on for them to do the same, or one day we will spend our sunset years telling our children and our children's children what it was once like in the United States where men were free."

Ronald Reagan



# WE'RE HIRING

Ad Sales Executives

- Paid Training
- Some Travel
- Work-life Balance
- Full-time with Benefits
- Serve Your Community

Visit [www.4lpi.com/careers](http://www.4lpi.com/careers)

## LEVITTAN & GOETZ CPA'S, PC

320 Crossways Park Dr.  
Woodbury, NY 11797

**513.326.8282**



## Advertise in Our Newsletter!

Contact Mark Daniel  
[mdaniel@4LPI.com](mailto:mdaniel@4LPI.com)  
(800) 950-9952 x6806



### ADT-Monitored Home Security

Get 24-Hour Protection  
From a Name You Can Trust

- Burglary
- Flood Detection
- Fire Safety
- Carbon Monoxide



Authorized  
Provider

SafeStreets

**833-287-3502**

**35 Years**  
of Dedicated  
Service

## Are YOU Tired of Broken Machines, Angry Customers or Missing/Late Commissions...

It's time you called SSVE!  
Service Station Vending Equipment, INC  
Is the Largest Independently Owned  
Coin Operated Air & Vacuum Company  
in the NATION!

**We Buy IT  
We Install IT  
We Maintain IT  
You Share the  
Revenue**

**NO Cost  
NO Maintenance**

### Added Benefits to You

- ★ Simple Commission Program
- ★ Payment Made at time of Collection
- ★ No waiting for a Check
- ★ 24 Hour Service
- ★ Externally Visible Coin Counters  
You know How much \$\$ is in the machine  
at all times.



You need to call us at:  
**1-800-AIR-USA1**  
Web: [www.ssveusa.com](http://www.ssveusa.com)



Are you taking advantage of these benefits of being a member of LIGRA



631-755-5550

WHAT YOU GET

*LIGRA*

Are you taking advantage of all of the benefits you are entitled to?

Let's Review ...

### 1 *Workers Comp Safety Group*

Pays a **20%** upfront discount and has paid an additional dividend of **30% or more** each and every year for the past **30 years!**



### 2 *Exclusive 25% Discounted Payroll Service*

Enables easier workers comp payments and audits



### 3 *Discounted Credit Card Processing*

Need we say more?

Pssst .... Also DMV Seminars

### 4 *Legal Assistance*

Discounted legal fees for all other issues including Free Legal fees for the 1st DMV Violation.

### 5 *Lobbyists*

Fighting in your interest against legislation mandates such as Mandatory electrical charging stations in all gas stations



L.P.L. Risk Management  
Insurance Solutions

631-676-7020  
631-472-5000

5 www.Ligra.com



Geoghan  
Insurance

# INTERVIEWS WITH MEDIA

## Would you like to be on the TV news or in the paper?

From time to time, we are approached by local television and print media outlets for interviews regarding issues impacting our industry, including gas prices, taxation, DMV concerns, and legislative developments at the local and state levels.

Would your location be willing to partner with us and participate in these interviews when requested? We will work with you with the responses



# MECHANIC RECRUITMENT INITIATIVE

## Are You Looking for a Mechanic?

One of the most significant challenges we have heard from our members is the difficulty in finding qualified mechanics. The shortage of skilled professionals has been a recurring concern in the automotive repair industry.

### Collaboration with Trade Schools

To address this issue, we are actively partnering with trade schools that specialize in automotive repair. These schools are eager to place their newly trained mechanics in reputable and well-managed repair shops. By working together, we aim to help both employers and graduates find the best opportunities.



## Interested in Hiring?

If you are interested in hiring any of these mechanics, please contact our LIGRA office at 631-755-5550. We will coordinate with the trade schools to provide you with resumes and arrange interviews at your location.

## EXCLUSIVE PROMOTION for LIGRA MEMBER



### The Mighty M-PAK Lube System



#### Viscosity Proliferation Solution!

The Mighty M-PAK Lube System packaging is perfect to address the continually expanding SKU's of the engine oil industry. More volume than cases, easier to administer and far less waste makes this the best choice for unique viscosities and slower moving specialty fluids.

#### Features & Benefits

##### Conveniently stock and sell Mighty Engine Guard®:

- Synthetic blend oil
- Synthetic oil
- Synthetic dexos® oil
- Synthetic Euro oil
- Mighty VS7® ATF

##### Durable Mighty Rack with:

- Transfer jugs with spouts for easy pouring into engine
- Environmentally friendly, eliminates quart bottles



## Introducing the New Mighty LIGRA special

We are pleased to announce that the Mighty is offering the LIGRA members Bag N Box oil promotion at an extremely aggressive pricing for the LIGRA members. There are no storage permits containments needed for this set up. Contact Chris at Ligma for more info 631-755-5550



No act of kindness is ever wasted



FORCHELLI  
DEEGAN  
TERRANA

PROVIDES A BROAD RANGE OF LEGAL SERVICES, INCLUDING:

LABOR & EMPLOYMENT • ENVIRONMENTAL (OIL SPILLS & SOIL CONTAMINATION) • LAND USE & ZONING • BANKING & FINANCE • TAX CERTIORARI • CONDEMNATION LITIGATION • REAL ESTATE • CONSTRUCTION TAX, TRUSTS & ESTATES • CORPORATE AND M&A VETERINARY • BANKRUPTCY • CANNABIS • IDA SECURITIES LITIGATION AND REGULATION



FOR INQUIRES, CONTACT:

**ANDREA TSOUKALAS CURTO, ESQ.**  
Partner, Land Use & Zoning • LIGRA's Legal Counsel  
ACurto@forchellilaw.com • 516.248.1700

333 Earle Ovington Blvd., Suite 1010, Uniondale, NY 11553 | 516.248.1700 | forchellilaw.com

# Support Our Advertisers!

# Never miss our publication!

Get each new issue delivered straight to your inbox.

Scan to subscribe on [MyCommunityOnline.com](http://MyCommunityOnline.com)



## Garageman liens

We are excited to announce a new partnership that we believe will bring great value to you our LIGRA members.

LIEN ONIT has been carefully selected as a recommended service provider for garageman lien processing services based on their exceptional reputation, high quality, and commitment to customer satisfaction.



Why we Recommend LIEN ON IT:

### Proven Expertise

- Over 75 years combined experience in processing garageman's liens.
- Over 35 years experience implementing solutions for the world's largest financial services institutions.

### Outstanding Support

- A customer service team that provides timely and effective support to ensure your satisfaction.
- A 12-person team committed to ensuring that they are always ready and available to meet a customer's needs.
- 24-hour processing: Liens while you sleep, driving the fastest turn-around in the business.
- A commitment to top-tier customer support.

### Modernized Approach

- Technology-enabled proprietary lien tracking and fulfillment system tailored to the unique needs of our members.
- The ability to integrate more effective lien processing with your workflows.
- Customizable tracking and reporting to keep you up-to-date.

We believe that LIEN ONIT will provide significant benefits to your operations, and we encourage you to consider their services for your requirements. For more information, please visit their website or contact Jim directly.

[www.lienonit.com](http://www.lienonit.com)   [info@lienonit.com](mailto:info@lienonit.com)   212-653-0136

## TIME TO UPDATE YOUR TRAINING



New York State, MANDATES all employers, regardless of the company's size, must have a sexual harassment policy. Employers must also conduct ANNUAL interactive sexual harassment training and provide a written anti-harassment policy to ALL employees, to help keep you in compliance with these regulations.

To comply with the MANDATORY interactive sexual harassment training, LIGRA will be hosting this training class. These classes will be held in our LIGRA Office .

We do also offering sexual harassment training in addition, at your location.

The cost is \$40.00 per person for LIGRA members and \$75 per person for non-LIGRA members.

Contact us to set up your training, at [Chris@LIGRA.COM](mailto:Chris@LIGRA.COM)

## Some of the Benefits for being a member of LIGRA

### LIGRA Your Voice in the Automotive Industry Serving Long Island and New York City's Automotive Businesses

The Long Island Gasoline Retailers Association (LIGRA) proudly represents independent automotive repair shops, collision and body shops, convenience stores, gasoline service stations, and related businesses throughout Long Island and the five boroughs of New York.

Our mission is to support your business, protect your interests, and serve the motoring public through strong industry advocacy and valuable member services.

#### **Member Benefits**

##### **Legislative & Regulatory Representation**

- Industry advocacy at the state and local government levels
- Representation before regulatory agencies and municipalities
- Updates on current and proposed laws affecting your business

Guidance on compliance with local and state regulations

##### **Business Support & Compliance Assistance**

- DMV licensing application assistance
- Department of Environmental Protection permit registration guidance
- Help navigating agency rules and regulations

Support with NYVIP3 and OPUS-related questions and service issues through established communication channels

##### **Technical & Legal Resources**

- Access to legal representation and industry guidance

Resources to help your business remain compliant and competitive

##### **Workers' Compensation Safety Group**

Members enjoy:

- Upfront premium discounts
- Some of the lowest workers' compensation rates available

Potential year-end dividends and rebates

Last year, participating members received a 35% rebate. If your business is not currently participating, contact LIGRA to learn how to join our Safety Group and start saving.

##### **Insurance Programs**

LIGRA offers access to:

- Multiple health insurance plans
- Enrollment and monthly billing assistance
- Medicare supplement plans for family members and friends enrolled in Medicare
- General liability insurance
- Garage Keepers coverage
- Environmental insurance programs

##### **Stay Informed. Stay Protected. Stay Competitive.**

Your LIGRA membership ensures that your business has a strong voice in Albany and with local governments while providing valuable programs designed to help your business succeed.

For more information about membership and available programs, visit [LIGRA.com](http://LIGRA.com) or contact LIGRA today.

## Thing going on with the Long Island Gasoline Retailers Association

- In response to rising postage costs, we are now offering members the option to pay their annual LIGRA dues online.
- If you are not currently receiving our emails, please send us your email address so that we may add you to our distribution list.
- There is currently a bill under consideration in Albany that we oppose and are actively working to defeat. If enacted, this legislation would restrict the rates our towing members are permitted to charge.
- Are you taking advantage of our LIGRA Workers Comp policies? Why not. Over the years we offer the lowest rates and payback a 30%- 35% dividend.
- **During this election cycle, we will be conducting candidate screenings for the offices of New York State Governor, Senate, and Assembly. Our annual political screening process will begin in August. Please let us know if there are particular issues you would like us to present to the candidates or if you are interested in attending the screenings.**



We are a non-profit trade association based on Long Island, New York. We represent our members at the local, state, and, when necessary, federal levels. For the past 96 years, we have worked diligently to advocate for the small, independent business owners who comprise our membership.

[www.Ligra.com](http://www.Ligra.com) 11

## Reach a hyperlocal audience.

An advertisement in this newsletter is a highly effective way to promote your business to our community.



Call 800.950.9952





# LIGRA

Long Island Gasoline Retailers Association, Inc.

270 Spagnoli Road, Suite 203  
Melville, N.Y. 11747

PRSRRT STD  
U.S. Postage  
**Paid**  
Permit # 2805  
Hartford, CT

JULY/AUGUST 2026



## Compliance Programs

- Full Life-Cycle Compliance Solutions
  - Inspections
  - Testing
  - Maintenance, Repairs, & Upgrades
- Automated Scheduling
  - Management of Compliance Deadlines
  - Schedule Management
  - Time-Sensitive Violation Resolution
- Data Sharing Portal
  - Records Available 24/7
  - Encrypted Database
- Site Compliance Management
  - Recommended Maintenance/Upgrades
  - Incorporating Compliance Inspection Program

